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Incident Report # 1010390

PCN

INCIDENT DESCRIPTION

*Report taken by: MST1 RICHARD LAYMAN at 19:47 on 02-MAY-12
Incident Type: FIXED
Incident Cause: OTHER
Affected Area:
Incident was discovered on 02-MAY-12 at 19:30 local incident time.
Affected Medium: WATER PUDDLES OF WATER

REGIONAL CASE NUMBER PA 12 0475

REPORTING PARTY

Name: KRISTIE TICE
Organization: CHEVRON
Email Address: ktice@chevroncom
CHEVRON reported for the responsible party.
PRIMARY Phone: (719)3721550
Type of Organization: PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

SUSPECTED RESPONSIBLE PARTY

Name: CHEVRON APPALACHIA, LLC
Organization: CHEVRON APPALACHIA, LLC
Address: 1550 CORAOPOLIS HEIGHTS ROAD
MOON TOWNSHIP, PA 15108

INCIDENT LOCATION

724 WASHINGTON ROAD County: WASHINGTON
City: ROBINSON TOWNSHIP State: PA Zip: 15019
VICINITY OF PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO EAST OF ROBINHILL 15/18 WELL PAD

RELEASED MATERIAL(S)

CHRIS Code: OTH Official Material Name: OTHER OIL
Also Known As: NATURAL GAS CONDENSATE
Qty Released: 0 UNKNOWN AMOUNT

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

IN CONNECTION WITH A RELEASE OF CONDENSATE AT THE ROBINHILL 15/18 WELL SITE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ON DECEMBER 20, 2011, SHEENS FROM SUSPECTED CONSTITUENTS OF CONDENSATE WERE OBSERVED IN SMALL PUDDLES OF WATER IN THE VICINITY OF A PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY ADJACENT TO THE WELL SITE. A PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION NOW INDICATES THAT THESE PUDDLES OF WATER MAY BE WITHIN POTENTIALLY JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS. THIS IS NOT A NEW RELEASE BUT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED RELEASE. THE SOURCE OF THE RELEASE WAS IDENTIFIED AND ELIMINATED, AND REMEDIATION HAS BEEN ONGOING SINCE DECEMBER 2011.

SENSITIVE INFORMATION

cc: J. Kelpatrick

INCIDENT DETAILS

Package: NO
Building ID:
Type of Fixed Object: NATURAL GAS WELL

Power Generating Facility: NO
 Generating Capacity:
 Type of Fuel:
 NPDES:
 NPDES Compliance: UNKNOWN

 IMPACT

Fire Involved: NO Fire Extinguished: UNKNOWN

INJURIES: NO Hospitalized: Empl/Crew: Passenger:
 FATALITIES: NO Empl/Crew: Passenger: Occupant:
 EVACUATIONS: NO Who Evacuated: Radius/Area:

Damages: NO

Closure Type	Description of Closure	Hours Closed	Direction of Closure
Air:	N		
Road:	N		Major Artery: N
Waterway:	N		
Track:	N		

Environmental Impact: NO

Media Interest: NONE Community Impact due to Material:

 REMEDIAL ACTIONS

✓ THE SOURCE OF THE RELEASE WAS IDENTIFIED AND ELIMINATED, AND REMEDIATION HAS BEEN ONGOING SINCE DECEMBER 2011.

Release Secured: YES

Release Rate:

Estimated Release Duration:

 WEATHER

Weather: UNKNOWN, ||F

 ADDITIONAL AGENCIES NOTIFIED

Federal:

State/Local: PDEP NOTIFIED IN DEC. 2011

State/Local On Scene:

State Agency Number:

 NOTIFICATIONS BY NRC

ATLANTIC STRIKE TEAM (MAIN OFFICE)

02-MAY-12 20:05 (609)7240008

CGIS RAO ST. LOUIS (COMMAND CENTER)

02-MAY-12 20:05 (314)2692420

DOT CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTER (MAIN OFFICE)

02-MAY-12 20:05 (202)3661863

U. S. EPA III (MAIN OFFICE)

02-MAY-12 20:16 (215)8149016 ZENONE

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE COORD CTR (MAIN OFFICE)

02-MAY-12 20:05 (202)2829201

NJ STATE POLICE (MARINE SERVICES BUREAU)

02-MAY-12 20:05 (609)9636900

NOAA RPTS FOR PA (MAIN OFFICE)

02-MAY-12 20:05 (206)5264911

PA STATE POLICE (BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION)

02-MAY-12 20:05 (717)5255260

SECTOR OHIO VALLEY (COMMAND CENTER)

02-MAY-12 20:05 (502)7795424
SECTOR OHIO VALLEY (MSU PITTSBURGH AUTOMATICS)
02-MAY-12 20:05 (412)6445808
✓ PA EMERG MGMT AGCY (MAIN OFFICE)
02-MAY-12 20:05 (717)6512001
USCG DISTRICT 8 (MAIN OFFICE)
02-MAY-12 20:05 (504)5896225
WEB REPORT (WEB REPORT SUBMITTER)
02-MAY-12 20:05
WEST VIRGINIA DEP (MAIN OFFICE)
02-MAY-12 20:05 (304)5585938
WV DEP ATTN: DUTY OFFICER (MAIN OFFICE)
02-MAY-12 20:05 (800)6423074
WV DEP SPILL LINE (MAIN OFFICE)
02-MAY-12 20:05 (304)3683960

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*****WEB REPORT*****AMOUNT SPILLED MARKED "UNKNOWN" ABOVE IS
ESTIMATED TRACE AMOUNTS CONSISTENT WITH OBSERVATIONS.

*** END INCIDENT REPORT #1010390 ***

Report any problems by calling 1-800-424-8802
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil>

<u>1179730</u>	02-MAY-12 19:47	<u>1010390</u>	Pending	ZENONE	CHEVRON APPALACHIA, LLC	<u>ROBINSON TOWNSHIP, PA</u> County: WASHINGTON	NATURAL GAS CONDENSATE (0 UNKNOWN AMOUNT);	Oil	EPAR3 DUTY OFFICER ZENONE CONTACTED PEMA ON BEHALF OF PADEP DURING NON-DUTY HOURS. PEMA CONFIRMED RECEIPT OF NRC REPORT AND PASSED IT ALONG TO PADEP-SWRO FOR FOLLOW-UP. ALTHOUGH NO EPAR3 RESPONSE ACTIVITIES ANTICIPATED, PASS COPY OF NRC REPORT TO EPAR3 OIL PROGRAM FROM RRC ON THURSDAY 05/03/12 FOR POSSIBLE ENFORCEMENT ACTION, AS DEC 2011 INCIDENT APPARENTLY WAS NOT REPORTED TO NRC BY RP.	n/a	No
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MAY-03-2012 14:53

USEPA

2158143025

P.05

TOTAL P.05

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

CONVERSATION WITH:

NAME: Vine yard

COMPANY: PADED

FACILITY

Chvron

SUBJECT: Robin Hill.

RECORD OF PHONE CALL ATTEMPTS:

DATE: 5/1/12
TIME: () left message
() see notes
() no answer

DATE:
TIME: () left message
() see notes
() no answer

ORIGINATOR PLACED CALL
 ORIGINATOR RECEIVED CALL

* NOTES *

- Cleanup/Remediation continuing
- Cleanup under Act.
- At this time no evidence of surface water being impacted.
- Denalty will be assessed after cleanup is complete.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION:

COPY/ROUTE TO: _____

FOLLOW-UP

FILE

ORIGINATOR: Paula Curtin

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

CONVERSATION WITH: NAME: <u>Vince Yanko (Supervisor)</u> COMPANY: <u>PADEP</u> FACILITY <u>Chevron-Robin Hill</u>	RECORD OF PHONE CALL ATTEMPTS: DATE: <u>1/1/12</u> TIME: _____ () left message () see notes () no answer DATE: _____ TIME: _____ () left message () see notes () no answer () ORIGINATOR PLACED CALL () ORIGINATOR RECEIVED CALL
SUBJECT: <u>Dec 19, 2011 - Feb 14, 2012 Condensate Spill</u>	

*** NOTES ***

Vince Yanko Stated:
 - EPA would have a difficult time proving a surface water body was impacted. NO evidence of shearing on stream.
 DEP's sampling ~~metals~~^{PC} did not indicate product in stream.
 Case is on-going and currently under Act 2 Remediation Program →

FOLLOW-UP ACTION:

COPY/ROUTE TO: _____

FOLLOW-UP
 FILE

ORIGINATOR: Paula Curtin

David Eberle (412) 442-4156 is handling that portion of case.

- Cleanup & remediation continuing.

According to PADEP Chevron put pads in creek as an ~~OPPR~~ precaution only.

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

SUBJECT: 308 Review, Chevron North America, December 19, 2011 and February 16, 2012

FROM: Paula Curtin
Spill Enforcement Coordinator (3HS61)

THRU: Anne Gilley, Acting Chief
Oil and Prevention Branch (3HS61)

THRU: Joan Armstrong, Acting Associate Director
Office of Enforcement (3HS60)

TO: File

On March 1, 2012, pursuant to EPA's information gathering authority, [Section 308 of the Clean Water Act ("CWA"), 42 U.S.C. § 1318], an Information Request letter was issued to Chevron North America ("Chevron"), in response to a news report referral alleging discharges on December 19, 2011 and February 16, 2012. The information request letter was issued to gather information about a condensate spill(s) that occurred in Robinson Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania at the Robinhill 15/18 well site. On May 7, 2012, EPA received a response from Chevron. A second Information Request letter was issued to Chevron on October 4, 2012 to gather additional information. EPA received a response on November 10, 2012.

This review was conducted to determine if violations under Section 311 of the CWA warrant further action. The second Information Request letter was issued to gather information on jurisdictional wetlands in the area and additional details of the February 16, 2012 incident.

On December 19, 2011, Chevron employees discovered a release of natural gas condensate leaking from a condensate line between the wellhead and condensate tanks on the well pad of the Robinhill 15/18 well site. According to the response, Chevron immediately shut in the well, stopped the release of material and began responding to and remediating the release. Chevron reported the release to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("PADEP") on December 20, 2011. Chevron estimates that approximately 80 barrels of condensate leaked from a crack in a weld of a two inch underground line. The second reported spill on February 16, 2012, was seepage from the hillside related to the original spill.

According to the response, and multiple conversations with Vince Yanko, PADEP, Chevron has completed an extensive cleanup and removal of contaminated soil. PADEP required Chevron to do extensive sampling of local streams, private water wells and jurisdictional wetlands in the area. Sample results show no evidence of contamination of the wells. In addition, according to the response and PADEP, no surface water or wetlands were impacted by this incident.

PADEP reported that the surface cleanup and removal of contaminated soil is complete. Site



restoration will be completed during the spring of 2013. PADEP reported it is in the preliminary phase of assessing a penalty and has not yet calculated a figure but anticipates a substantial penalty for numerous violations of State Laws.

The Information Request response and all documents associated with the response have been forwarded to Todd Lutte, EPA Region III's Environmental Assessment and Innovation Division, for any possible 404 violations.

Based on the review of the response, and available information from PADEP, it has been determined that no actionable violation under Section 311 of the CWA can be substantiated.

Based on current information available, there is no further action under Section 311(b)(3) being contemplated at this time. EPA reserves the right to conduct future investigations and bring future enforcement actions, as appropriate.

CONCURRENCES

SYMBOL	3HS61	3HS61	3HS60				
SURNAME	Curtis <i>BC</i>	Gilley <i>AG</i>	Armstrong				
DATE	<i>1/28/13</i>	<i>2/4/13</i>	<i>2/14/13</i>				

State probing second spill at Marcellus Shale well

February 21, 2012 12:00 am
/ Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The state Department of Environmental Protection was continuing its investigation of the second spill of condensate fluids in three months at a Chevron-Appalachia Marcellus Shale gas well operation in Robinson, Washington County.

John Poister, a DEP spokesman, said Sunday that the spilled condensate -- a mixture of liquid hydrocarbons or "wet gases" and drilling fluids -- was discovered Thursday by a township employee inspecting a nearby facility that separates the fluids from the natural gas. The spilled liquid had run into Bigger Run Creek, a tributary of Raccoon Creek. He had no information about whether fish or aquatic life were killed, but cleanup crews placed absorbent material in the creek on Friday.

Mr. Poister didn't know how much condensate was spilled and said the DEP is trying to determine the amount and the cause. Department investigators were at the scene Friday and planned on returning this week.

Mr. Poister said Chevron-Appalachia is continuing remediation work that started in December, when the first condensate spill occurred, and has dug up and filled more than 10 Dumpsters with contaminated soil. The DEP has not issued a violation notice for that spill.

First Published 2012-03-12 17:06:00

PIPELINE
Your source for Marcellus Shale coverage & community
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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Marcellus spill in Robinson, Washington County

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SUNDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2012 13:53 WRITTEN BY DON HOPEY

The state Department of Environmental Protection is continuing its investigation of the second spill of condensate, "wet gases" and contaminated drilling liquids, in three months at a Chevron-Appalachia Marcellus Shale gas well operation in Robinson Township, Washington County.

John Poister, a DEP spokesman, said Sunday the spilled condensate, which was discovered last Thursday by a township employee inspecting a gas pipeline facility nearby, had run into Bigger Run Creek, a tributary of Raccoon Creek. He had no information about whether fish or aquatic life were killed, but cleanup crews placed absorbent material in the creek on Friday.

Mr. Poister could not say how much condensate material was spilled and said the DEP is trying to determine the amount and the cause. Department investigators were at the scene Friday and planned on returning this week.

Mr. Poister said Chevron-Appalachia is continuing remediation work that started in December, when the first condensate spill occurred, and has dug up and filled more than 10 dumpsters with contaminated soil. The DEP has not issued a violation notice for either spill.

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"In the rush to create a larger tax-free zone for Shell, they failed to ask the local government to approve the local tax exemption and apply for the expansion, which is required by state law."

<http://publicsource.org/investigations/potter>

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Feb. 28, 2012, 2:21 p.m. EST

Chevron reports oil spill in Marcellus Shale: Pa.

By Isabel Ordonez

HOUSTON -(MarketWatch)- Chevron Corp. (NYSE:CVX) has reported to state regulators that a small oil condensate spill occurred late last year at a company's Marcellus Shale well site was greater than anticipated, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection said Tuesday.

On Dec. 20, Chevron reported to regulators that it has discovered a leak from a pipe joint weld buried four feet under the well pad in Robinson, Washington County. Initially, the broken pipe was estimated to have spilled two barrels of oil condensate, but Chevron reported to regulators by the end of December that the spill was greater than anticipated, said John Poister, community relations coordinator for the DEP. "As of today they believe as much of 80 barrels of condensate were lost between Nov. 8, when they begun their fracking operation, and Dec. 18, when they discovered the break in the pipe," Poister said.

Chevron didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

The news was first reported by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Tuesday.

The company is working on determine the extent of the contamination of the soil at the site, Poister said, adding that the DEP has collected soil and water samples that are being tested for contamination.

"There has been some neighbors who are concerned but they have not noticed changes in their water," Poister. "There is no believe the spill has spread beyond Chevron's properties."

Chevron became one of the largest natural gas producer in the Marcellus Shale after it bought Atlas Energy last year for about \$4 billion.

The spill comes at a time when hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, which involves using huge quantities of pressurized water and chemicals to unlock oil and gas resources trapped in rocks underground, is under scrutiny by environmental groups. The technique is opposed by some environmental groups that say the practice can contaminate groundwater.

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Marcellus spill in Robinson, Washington County

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<http://publicsource.org/investigations/potter->



The Natural Gas Forums

Open Discussion => Natural Gas Leasing => Pennsylvania => Topic started by: ruby_99 on February 18, 2012, 01:58:02 AM

Title: **More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **ruby_99** on **February 18, 2012, 01:58:02 AM**

Pardon the sarcasm. Here's (<http://www.observer-reporter.com/or/break11/02172012gaswellspill>) a report of another accident at an Atlas/Chevron site. Must be one of the Robinhill wells.

"John Poister, spokesman for the Southwest regional office of the DEP, said an unknown amount of condensate was released into the soil and ran down a hill into the creek."

Title: **Re: More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **Isheoktoday** on **February 18, 2012, 02:14:55 AM**

That is unfortunate. Maybe that is why Chevron says they want to buy another company with good employees, not just acreage.....

My sarcasm aside, that gives the industry a bad name.

Title: **Re: More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **vlaamseman** on **February 18, 2012, 02:22:14 AM**

There ought to be a way that we could just let Range Resources do all the Marcellus wet gas wells in Washington County. They probably do over 90 percent of them now, yet we have seldom heard of any problems from their wells, dating back to 2004 in Washington County.

Title: **Re: More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **Berkeley** on **February 18, 2012, 02:26:03 AM**

Is this chevron's rep or just atlas?

Title: **Re: More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **meangene** on **February 18, 2012, 02:57:51 PM**

An update on the Atlas/Chevron spill in Robinson Twp:

<http://www.observer-reporter.com/or/story11/02-18-12-chevron-spill>

DEP probes gas well spill

By Christie Campbell Staff writer chriscam@observer-reporter.com

McDONALD - A spill of what appears to be condensate at a gas well site owned by Chevron-Appalachia in Robinson Township was being investigated Friday by the state

Department of Environmental Protection.

Robinson Township Supervisor Brian Coppola said the spill at the site at 8400 Noblestown Road was discovered Thursday by a township employee and DEP was notified.

The material had run into Bigger Run Creek, which Coppola said feeds into Raccoon Creek. He expressed concern about the number of residents who have private water wells in that area.

John Poister, spokesman for the Southwest regional office of the DEP, said an unknown amount of condensate was released into the soil and ran down a hill into the creek. Condensate is a liquid byproduct of gas drilling, which Poister said is wet natural gas.

He said a cleanup crew was on site Friday and placing absorbent material in the creek. Officials are still trying to determine the cause.

Poister said this is the second spill at the site. The first occurred in December. DEP was notified by Chevron of that leak and the company had been working on remediation. A violation notice was not issued to Chevron.

Trip Oliver, manager of policy, government and public affairs, said Chevron stopped the December leak, notified the DEP and "has continued to work with the DEP during the course of its remediation efforts."

Chevron officials did not return calls seeking comment about the second spill Friday afternoon.

DEP investigators were at the site of the second spill Friday and plan to return next week. Lab testing is being done to determine how large the spill is and exactly what it is, Poister said.

Coppola said a township employee noticed the leak while inspecting the nearby Laurel Mountain Midstream dew point control facility. The township reported the leak to the DEP, which had not been aware of it.

"This is the problem with the state watching this industry: they are not following it," Coppola said.

Coppola and other officials at Robinson Township have been outspoken in their criticism of the new state impact fee bill which stripped municipalities of some local zoning and oversight of the gas industry.

Title: **Re: More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **ruby_99** on **February 18, 2012, 08:21:43 PM**

"while inspecting the nearby Laurel Mountain Midstream dew point control facility"

This facility is just one of the processing plants that Atlas and its offshoots built without the proper permits. I believe both were finished and unused for a few months until permits were obtained.

I believe that all the Robinhill wells pre-dated the Chevron merger.

Title: **Re: More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **ruby_99** on **February 22, 2012, 03:30:13 PM**

It seems I was a bit hasty.

<http://www.observer-reporter.com/or/story11/02-22-12-Robinson-spill-update>

"A spokesman for the state Department of Environmental Protection said Tuesday a spill at a gas well site in Robinson Township is likely "a continuation" of a leak first reported in December.

John Poister, spokesman for DEP's Southwest regional office, said the agency first learned of a leak from an underground line to a condensate tank at the Chevron-Appalachia well site Dec. 20. Poister said at this point in the investigation, it appears there was no second spill but only workers cleaning up from that December leak."

Berkeley: As far as I know, we're only referring to Atlas' reputation. I don't know how much things have changed since they were bought out.

Title: **Re: More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **Berkeley** on **February 23, 2012, 02:26:36 PM**

Thanks. I really hope they bring in a competent, conscientious driller into our area. I guess everyone does. We had a bad accident a year or so ago from what i think was an inexperienced driller.

Title: **Re: More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **meangene** on **February 25, 2012, 09:52:33 PM**

<http://www.observer-reporter.com/or/break11/02-25-12-depspilllarger>

DEP: Chevron spill in Robinson larger than first thought

A spokesman for the state Department of Environmental Protection agency said contamination of soil at a gas well site in Robinson Township is much larger than first believed.

John Poister, spokesman for the southwest regional DEP office, said the scope of the spill was revealed during a meeting Friday between the agency and Chevron-Appalachia.

Trip Oliver, manager of policy, government and public affairs for Chevron, said the meeting was held at the agency's request to update them on the cleanup. Oliver said Chevron will continue to keep the DEP informed of the remediation.

To date, nearly 114 dumpsters of contaminated soil have been removed from the site.

Poister did confirm that there was only one spill and that had occurred in December. The company stopped the leak in December.

Title: **Re: More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **meangene** on **February 28, 2012, 11:09:45 PM**

Another article on the leak: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/12059/1213129-503.stm>

Chevron assessing damage of Washington Co. well leak
Tuesday, February 28, 2012
By Don Hopey, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A leaking 2-inch pipe carrying oily condensates from a fracking operation at a Chevron-Appalachia Marcellus Shale well in Robinson, Washington County, has become a much bigger problem than the company and state regulators thought when it was discovered 10 weeks ago.

The leak from a faulty pipe joint weld buried 4 feet under the well pad was discovered by the company and reported to the state Department of Environmental Protection on Dec. 20. At the time, Chevron thought it had spilled about two barrels, or about 100 gallons, and told the DEP it was a minor incident and under control.

But the DEP said Chevron now estimates that as much as 80 barrels, or 4,000 gallons, of condensate -- also known as "wet gas" -- leaked from the pipe between Nov. 8, when the well fracking began, and its discovery 42 days later.

"We're still in the process of assessing the damage caused by this leak," Trip Oliver, a Chevron spokesman, said Monday. "When you have a leak in an underground condensate line, the assessment is not as simple as if the leak was above ground. We've been remediating the site since it was first discovered in December."

John Poister, a DEP spokesman, said the leaking pipe's location, buried instead of above ground where a leak could have been more quickly discovered and fixed, will be part of the department's ongoing investigation, which he described as "still in the early stages." No notices of violation have been issued.

Mr. Poister said at least 1,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil has been dug up on the well pad, and the company has indicated that condensate contamination has spread off the well pad onto adjacent areas of the site property.

"So far, 113 [Dumpsters] have been filled with soil removed from the well site," Mr. Poister said in an email response to questions. "Condensate has been detected off the well pad within the surface waters below the site."

Mr. Poister said containment booms, hay bales and absorbent pads have been deployed around the site to corral and soak up the contaminated water and the DEP has taken soil and water samples. He said the department doesn't know yet if any condensate found its way into Bigger Run Creek, a tributary of Raccoon Creek.

In response to concerns from three nearby residents, Mr. Poister said the department has recommended that Chevron contact them and test well water supplies. He said there is no indication that private well supplies have been contaminated.

Mr. Oliver said the company is developing a final remediation plan, due to the DEP by the end of this week, and "sampling will be a part of that." The company has drilled at least 15 borings to depths between 6 and 12 feet and hired a consultant to help determine the extent of the soil and water contamination.

Reports to and by the DEP a week ago that a second leak had occurred at the well

site were erroneous.

Don Hopye: dhopye@post-gazette.com or 412-263-1983.

First published on February 28, 2012 at 12:00 am

Read more: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/12059/1213129-503.stm#ixzz1nikrqYsM>

Title: **Re: More fine work by Atlas**

Post by: **meangene** on **May 12, 2012, 08:54:15 PM**

<http://www.observer-reporter.com/or/story11/05-12-2012-Chevron-remediation-5/12/2012-3:32-AM>

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Chevron files with DEP intent to address Robinson spill site

By Christie Campbell Staff writer chriscam@observer-reporter.com

As part of its efforts to clean up a spill at a natural gas well site in Robinson Township, Chevron on Friday formally submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection a notice of intent to remediate the site.

The leak occurred in December at Chevron's Robinhill 15H-18H natural gas well site.

According to Trip Oliver, Chevron's manager for policy, government and public affairs, on Dec. 19, Chevron detected a leak from a crack in a 2-inch underground condensate line at the facility. The company took immediate action to stop the leak and notified the DEP.

At the time, a DEP spokesman said an unknown amount of the condensate was believed to have run down a hillside and possibly entered Bigger Run Creek. Absorbent material was placed in the creek to capture any stray condensate.

Oliver said Friday there is no evidence of condensate in the stream.

Since the leak was first detected, Chevron has been working closely with the DEP on interim remedial activities, including the recovery of condensate and the removal of contaminated soil. It is estimated that the leak amounted to about 80 barrels of condensate. About 6,500 cubic yards of soil have been removed from the site since remediation efforts began last December.

The filing of a notice of intent to remediate is the next step in the process, formally placing remediation of the site under the Act 2 program in alignment with the guidance provided by DEP Oil and Gas Division in its recently published draft spill policy. As required by the filing, Chevron has provided a copy of the notice to Robinson Township.

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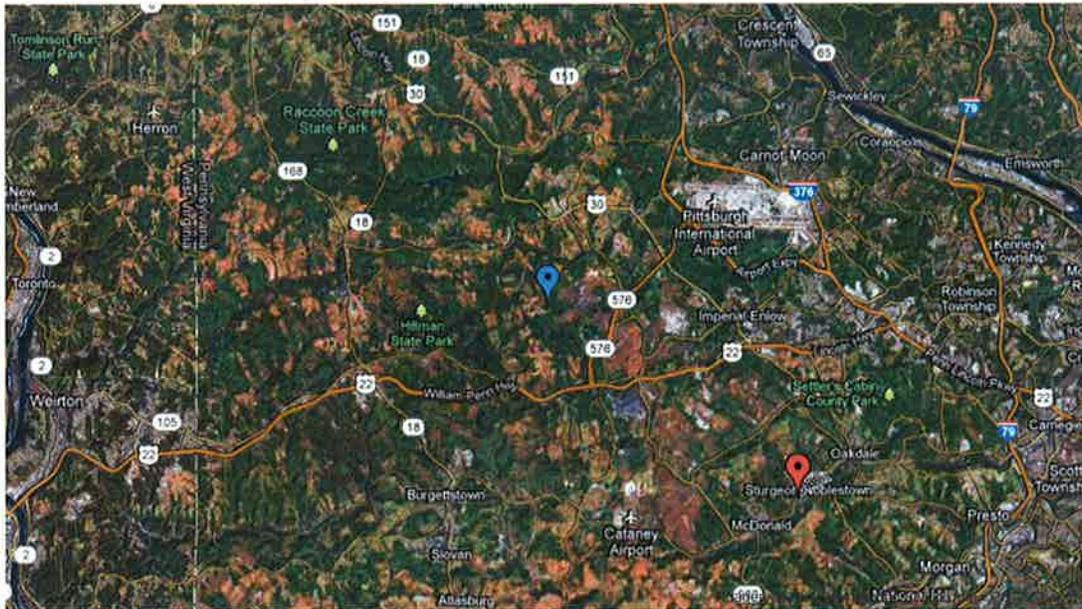
To find the latitude and longitude of a point **Click on the map**, **Drag** the marker, or enter the...

Address:

Map Center: [Get Address](#) - [Land Plat Size](#) - [Street View](#) - [Google Earth 3D](#) - [Area Photographs](#)

Try out the [Google Earth Plug-in](#). Google Earth gives you a 3D look of the area around the center of the map, which is usually your last click point, and includes latitude, longitude and elevation information.

Latitude and Longitude of a Point



Note: Right click on a **blue marker** to remove it.

Get the Latitude and Longitude of a Point

When you click on the map, move the marker or enter an address the latitude and longitude coordinates of the point are inserted in the boxes below.

Latitude:

Longitude:

	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
Latitude:	40	22	50.865
Longitude:	-80	12	54.471

Show Point from Latitude and Longitude

Use this if you know the latitude and longitude coordinates of a point and want to see where on the map the point is.

Use: **+** for N Lat or E Long **-** for S Lat or W Long.

Example: +40.689060 -74.044636

Note: Your entry should not have any embedded spaces.

Decimal Deg. Latitude:

Decimal Deg. Longitude:

Example: **+34 40 50.12** for **34N 40' 50.12"**

Degrees Minutes Seconds

Latitude:

Longitude:

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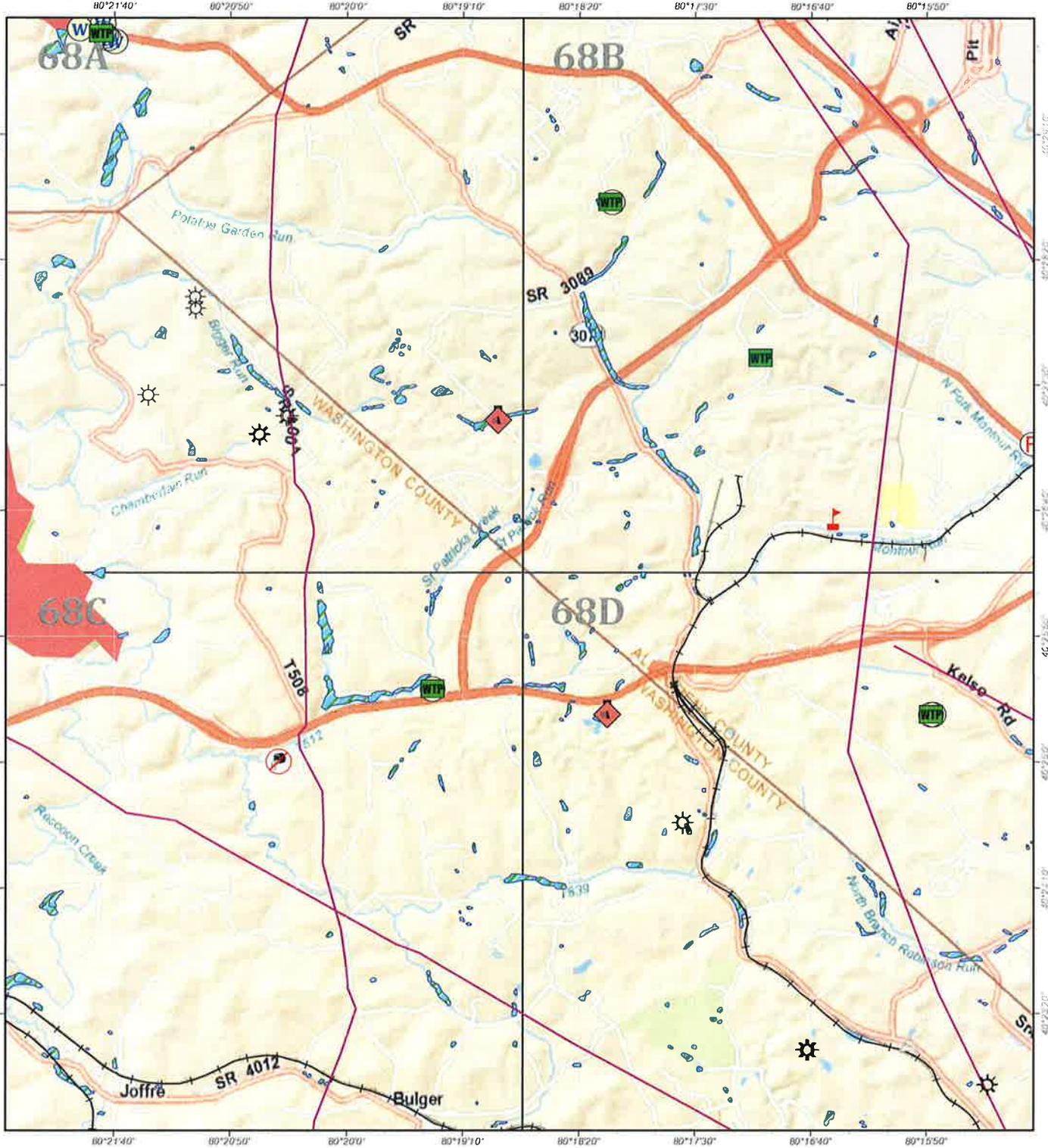
© iTouchMap.com 2007-2012

RED MARKER IS 8400 NOBLESTOWN
 BLUE MARKER IS LONG.+LAT GIVEN BY CHEVRON

Continue on Tile 49

Continue on Tile 67

Continue on Tile 69

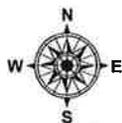


Continue on Tile 86



Southwest Pennsylvania/Wheeling Geographic Response Plan

Links
 RIVER GRID
 LEGEND
 USER GUIDE
 LAYER STATUS



DOQ Map Tile
 68

 = Map Tile Displayed



1 inch = 1.1 miles





Appalachian/Michigan
Business Unit
Chevron North America
Exploration and Production
a Division of Chevron U.S.A Inc.
1550 Coraopolis Heights Road
Moon Township, PA 15108
Tel 412-262-2830
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Vincent Yantko, Water Quality Specialist Supervisor,
California District Office
Oil & Gas Management
Department of Environmental Protection
25 Technology Drive
California, Pa 15423

March 1, 2012

RE: Robinhill Gas Well Pad Location 15/18 Remediation Activities

Dear Mr. Yantko:

Per your request, the following bullet-pointed memo is to outline the current status of environmental investigations at the Robinhill 15/18 well site location in Robinson Township, Washington County (Site). As noted below, Chevron Appalachia, LLC (Chevron) is investigating the Site using standards and procedures established under Pennsylvania's Land Recycling and Environmental Remediation Standards Act (Act 2). We have preliminarily screened our sampling results using Act 2 residential statewide health standards, but we have not yet made a final determination as to which Act 2 criteria are most appropriate for the Site. As we collect further information and refine our understanding of conditions at the Site, we expect to be in a better position to define our final remedial objectives. In the meantime, Chevron will continue to work closely with you and other representatives of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to discuss the results of our investigation and our proposed response to the release.

Background

On December 19, 2011, Chevron discovered a condensate leak at the Site. The leak came from a small crack in a 2-inch underground condensate line on that Site. Chevron promptly reported the release and took immediate action to shut in the line and stop the leak. Remediation and assessment activities have been underway since that time.

Initial Site Remediation

- Chevron contracted with Weavertown Environmental Group (WEG) to coordinate the initial on-site soils screening and excavation efforts of impacted materials from the well pad, and to oversee the transportation and off-site disposal of materials.

- Small excavations were performed, by MEC Contractors (MEC) of Bridgeport, WV, in the center of the well pad to gauge the extent of the release.
- MEC removed soil around the existing well appurtenances, including well heads, separation vessels, incinerator units, ventilation stacks and condensate tanks.
- Approximately 800 gallons of condensate laden fluid was removed from excavations via vacuum truck. This fluid was placed into the condensate tanks present on site.
- Following the initial soil excavation and sampling efforts, on January 30, 2012, condensate-impacted soil was discovered beyond the perimeter of the initial excavation.
- Moody and Associates (“Moody”), Houston, PA, contracted by Chevron, further investigated the extent of contamination. Comprehensive additional site characterization was initiated, and soil removal activities were temporarily ceased, pending results of the site characterization.
- The Site was stabilized, by MEC, after soil removal activities were conducted in order to minimize potential erosion and runoff.

Initial Confirmatory Soil Sampling

- Moody conducted partial confirmatory soil sampling (biased) on February 13, 2012 for the western portion of the excavated area on the well pad, near the former source of the condensate leak (Figure 1).
- All of the confirmatory soil sample analytes collected were below Act 2 residential soil standards, with the exception of samples collected at one location (CS-3), where soil samples contained concentrations of Benzene and 1, 3, 5-Trimethylbenzene in excess of Act 2 residential standards (Table 1).
- The current analyte list reflects the constituents of concern (COC) that were analyzed as part of the initial soil and water sampling. Chevron intends to finalize the COC list based upon the results of further investigations and discussions with DEP.

Site Monitoring and Sampling

- Water samples were collected by Moody, from surface water points on the Site, the natural gas pipeline right-of-way and surface features nearby, including several points along Bigger Run and surface ponds to the east and west of the site respectively (See Figure 2). In addition, regular inspections have been conducted of all surface waters in the area of the Site, including Bigger Creek, which may act as potential receptors for the condensate.
- Based on the absence of visual and olfactory evidence of condensate in these surface waters, and the use of a Photo-ionization Detector (PID) that showed no readings of Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) vapors (presence of condensate) in the shallow soil horizons near these surface waters, no condensate fluid has infiltrated surface waters near the Site.
- Analytical results from the sampling program points were received on February 21, 2012 that confirms this conclusion, (Table 2).
- Surface water samples collected during the week of February 12- February 18, 2012 showed no detection of volatile or semi volatile compounds; with the exception of SW-11

which had a benzene concentration of 11.4 µg/L (Act 2 residential used aquifer standard is 5 µg/L). Barium was detected in several of the water samples but well below the statewide health standard.

- Additional water samples were collected from all identified possible surface receptors on Friday February 24, 2012 by Moody, results pending. These possible receptors will be sampled routinely during the ongoing investigation and remediation to identify migration of COCs.
- No residences or residential groundwater wells have been identified in the vicinity of the site which could potentially intercept condensate fluid. The nearest known well is approximately 1750 horizontal feet from the well pad and is topographically upgradient. No impact of this water supply is expected to occur, due to the existence of a surface water divide between the Site and the residential well and due to the presence of clay layer at the Site (See Site Characterization discussion below).

Mitigation Controls

- Absorbents have been placed at strategic places along surface water pathways at the Site to control the potential migration of the condensate along surface water channels. All sorbents are changed on a regular basis, needed or not.
- Measures were implemented to collect condensate from surface water runoff from the Site and assess possible off-site migration of the condensate. Straw bales were placed at surface water egress points to control erosion. Absorbent boom was placed conjoint to the straw to collect any free product. Absorbent pads were placed on standing water to collect standing free product.

Site Characterization

GeoProbe Work

- On February 13, 2012, Moody utilized a direct-push GeoProbe machine for the collection of soil samples from borings conducted in and around the perimeter of the well pad. The depths of these samples were field determined to prevent penetration of the condensate past the clay aquitard and into deeper, groundwater-bearing strata.
- All soils collected from the borings were screened with a PID meter. Certain samples were analyzed for the presence of volatile organic compounds (using Method PA-624/EPA-8260B) and semivolatile organic compounds (using Method PA-625/ EPA-8270) (See Figure 3 and Table 3).
- As of February 28, 2012, a total of 67 borings have been placed around the immediate perimeter of the Robinhill 15/18 well pad (see Figure 3).
- The shallow subsurface materials are mostly (in descending order):
 - One to two feet of fill material or soils
 - A prevalent clay layer, several feet in thickness
 - Siltstone/shale
- As of February 24, 2012, Moody had received laboratory analyticals for soil samples from GP-3 through GP-27, located on the east side of the well pad. These results show

the presence of VOCs in 5 of the 8 samples. However, only one of the samples (GP-7) had a chemical concentration above residential Act 2 standards, in the form of Benzene (Table #3). Note that we are updating the Tables as we continue to receive laboratory results. Table #3 reflects the received written laboratory results whereas Figure 3 refers field screened or verbally conveyed results.

- Moody is still awaiting the results of the surface water samples collected February 24, 2012.
- Additional soil probe and monitoring well installations are planned for the upcoming weeks.

Monitoring Well Installation

- Potable groundwater is found at a much greater depth than the shallow surface waters and perched groundwater at the Site.
- A suite of groundwater monitoring wells is being planned to assess the potential vertical component of subsurface impacts within the groundwater regime. Tentative locations of the proposed monitoring wells will be determined based on the results of the GeoProbe soils sampling. Once the wells are installed, developed, and purged, the monitoring points will be sampled on a steeped frequency basis (i.e. weekly to monthly to quarterly, etc.) which will be determined at a later date.
- It is currently believed that the condensate has not infiltrated the underlying aquifers, due to the presence of the thick, relatively impermeable clay layer that has likely restricted the downward flow of the condensate.

Current Assessment

- Based on current results of Moody's field characterization efforts and consistent with topography of the area, it is believed that the impacted materials are relegated to the eastern half of the Site.
- Analytical results show no surface water outside the limits of disturbance has been affected by the release. Additional surface water sampling is scheduled.

Future Work

- Additional excavation will occur on the well pad. The immediate area of sample CS-3 will have additional material removed. Other selected areas of the well pad may have further excavation to remove impacted soil. This soil will be placed into lined rolloff containers. Following excavation, the area will be re-sampled. If soil results for these areas meet Act 2 standards, the area will be refilled with clean materials and compacted.
- As noted above, the proposed scope of work outlined herein and shown in the attached figures, is subject to change based on developing site characterization results and scenarios. More soils and groundwater characterization efforts may be needed to fully assess the environmental status of the Site and nearby area. Once the site characterization activities are complete and a conceptual model is constructed, remedial options for the Site will be determined based on the data from soil and groundwater and surface water monitoring and further discussions with DEP.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require additional information. I may be reached at (412) 865-1566 or via e-mail at blok@chevron.com. You may also contact Matthew Barch, Environmental Geologist, at (412) 865-1522 or via e-mail at mbarch@chevron.com.

Sincerely,
Chevron Appalachia, LLC

 1 March 2012

Blake Loke
Area Operations Manager, Marcellus
Appalachian Michigan Business Unit

CC: J. Guenard Chevron
M. Barch Chevron
K. Coleman Chevron
A Eichler PADEP



Legend

- Confirmatory Samples
- Excavated Area

Scale:
1 in = 100 ft

0 50 100 200
Feet

Prepared for:
Chevron AMSBU

Map Reference:
This exhibit is based on the ESRI Aerial Imagery.
USGS topographic 7.5' quadrangle Clinton, PA.

Figure 1
Chevron Robinhill 15/18 Well Site
Confirmatory Sampling with Background Sample
Robinson Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania

Project #: 12-049 JT				199 Johnson Road Building 2 Suite 101 Houston, PA 15342 724.746.5200 voice 724.746.5603 fax www.moody-s.com
Drawn by:	Checked by:	Date:	Revision:	
ADJ	JT	3/1/12	1	



Moody
and Associates, Inc.



- Legend**
- Excavated Area
 - Leak
 - ⊕ Supply
 - Surface Water
 - ◇ Surface Water Drainage

Scale:
 1 in = 150 ft
 0 75 150 300
 Feet

Prepared for:
 Chevron AMSBU

Map Reference:
 This exhibit is based on the ESRI Aerial Imagery, USGS topographic 7.5' quadrangle Clinton, PA.

Figure 2
 Chevron Robinhill 15/18 Well Site
 Surface Water Monitoring/Sampling Points
 Robinson Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania

Project #: 12-049 JT				199 Johnson Road Building 2 Suite 101 Houston, PA 15342 724.746.5200 voice 724.746.5603 fax www.moody-s.com 
Drawn by:	Checked by:	Date:	Revision:	
ADJ	JT	2/9/12	1	